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1927-1931

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Gentlemen:

Will you kindly advise us what in your judgment are the best books giving up-to-date values of rare coins.

We occasionally have requests from public libraries for this information, and would greatly appreciate any aid you may give us in the enclosed stamped envelope.

Yours very truly,

THE H. R. HUNTING COMPANY

VMS:LL

December 18, 1931.

The H. R. Huntting Co.
29 Worthington St.
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

Referring to yours of December 16th, the most recent premium lists on rare coins are those published by the Scott Stamp & Coin Company, 1 West 47th Street, New York City. I would suggest you write to them for a list. You will notice that I describe these as being the most recent, whereas you ask for the ones which in my judgment are the best. The reason it is impossible to comply with your request is because the value of a coin depends not on the variety but on the condition of the piece that happens to be under consideration and there is no sound criterion which will enable one to accurately describe this "condition" - a piece which you might think was in good condition probably would not be so considered by a dealer who considered its purchase. Pieces of even rare issues, when they are in poor condition, will command no premium whatever, whereas a fine specimen from the same pair of dies might command a considerable sum. The price listed by dealers in such books as those referred to above often take this into consideration and offer less than they would be willing to pay for specimens in the very best of condition. If this information proves to be of service to you, I shall be very glad.

Very truly yours,